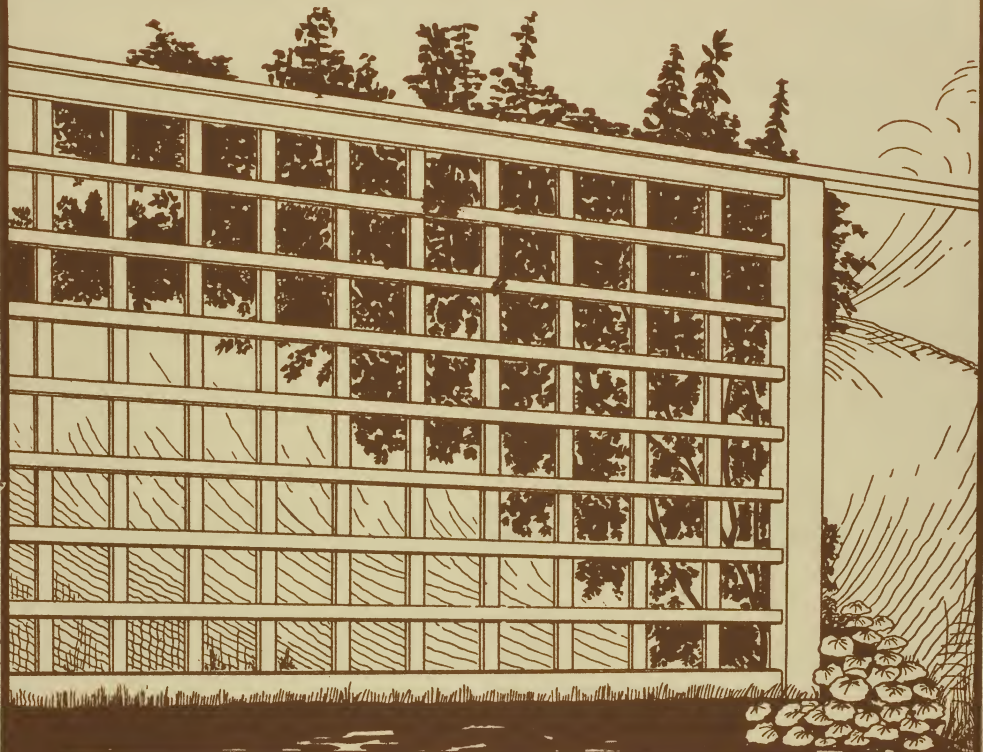


# California Garden



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JUNE 1923

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# The California Garden

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POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, JUNE, 1923

No. 12

## PAEONYS IN SAN DIEGO

By Kate Z. Williams, Santa Ysabel, Calif.

When paeonys are mentioned one thinks of the old fashioned red and white "Pineys" which grew in the front yard of the old home "back East". Today there are at least one thousand named varieties in cultivation as beautiful and fragrant as roses, blooming in great profusion in May, hence in great demand as the "Decoration Day flower", as such, is awakening keen interest amongst flower lovers, and florists, as a cut flower. The Paeony is one of the oldest flowers mentioned in history. The elder Pliny, about 70 A. D. wrote: "The plant known as Paeonia is most ancient of them all. It still retains the name of him who was the first to discover it."

"This plant is a preservation against the illusions practiced by the Fauni in sleep. It is generally recommended to take it up at night, for, if the wood pecker of Mars should perceive a person doing so, it will immediately attack his eyes in defense of the plant."

Back in the middle ages folks believed that the paeony protected the house it grew beside, averted tempests and put evil spirits to flight. It was not so very long ago that children in England wore necklaces of beads made from dried paeony roots, as they were thought to prevent spasms, and make the teeth come easier. This superstition was one of many which attributed great medicinal properties to the plant.

The red paeony, *paeonia officinalis*, is a native of Southern Europe and Southwestern Asia. It was brought to Antwerp in the latter part of the fifteenth century, and undoubtedly it was the Dutch who first introduced it in the dooryards of Manhattan. The paeony of the Northlands is the white flowered species, *paeonia albaflora*, and it came from Siberia. Our wonderful double varieties of the present day, ranging in color pure white to deep crimson, are descendants of *Paeonia officinalis* and *Paeonia albaflora*, and are the products of the gardeners' skill in crossing different varieties. The one woody paeony of the world, the Montan, or Tree Paeony of China and Japan, is another strain that has been introduced in developing our present race of garden paeonies.

The tree paeony has been the pride of China for 1400 years; poets have sung its praises; artists have put it on canvas; emperors have raised it in their gardens, and a record of all new varieties grown from seed has been kept. "Hwa Ouang" is the Chinese name of the paeony and it means King of Flowers.

One modern paeony is of French origin, for it was in the gardens of King Louis Phillipe that some of the first were originated. The king's gardener, M. Jaques, acquired a fine collection and several other enthusiastic amateurs amongst the nobility imported the best varieties they could obtain from China and Japan and raised the seedlings which have given us some of our most wonderful flowers. There are the Calot-Crousee varieties and those of the world's greatest hybridizer, Victor Lemoyne; also many others for which we are indebted to French specialists along this line.

England has contributed richly, too, in adding many new modern varieties. Kelway is an English specialist. Here in America we point with pride to three men who made the growing of paeonys their hobby, and produced some of our finest varieties. John Richardson of Dorchester, Mass., who, at the age of 90, was still enthusiastically planting paeony seed. H. A. Terry of Crescent, Iowa, who in his 80th year wrote: "I do not know how long I shall continue to grow paeonys, but I love them so much I want to be surrounded by them as long as I live." Geo. H. Holles of Weymouth, whose paeonys were awarded many first class certificates by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, was surrounded by his productions during his declining years.

When we learn that four to six years are required for blooms to be produced from seed, and many more years to raise from one seedling which has proved distinctive, sufficient stock to offer the trade, we begin to realize the debt we owe to the patient men who spent their lives producing the wonderful flowers that we of today have to enjoy.

Paeonys are divided into classes according to the arrangements and number of petals.

First there are the single flowers, then the semi-doubles. When stamens are changed to petals we have the Bomb type, in which the outer or guard petals are different from the others. Then when the pistils in the center of the flower begin to change to petals, there are often three distinct sort of petals, first the outer or guard petals, then the shorter petals in a dense mass, then a few very tall petals in the middle. This is called the Crown type. In the Rose type all of the parts are changed to almost or quite uniform petals like a rose. If not quite full it is called semi-rose.

In propagating paeonies it is best to get plants with several "eyes" or stalk shoots. The plants in floral nomenclature are called "toes". September or October is the best month to plant. If set at this time they make a root growth before winter, which is necessary to produce spring bloom. The "eyes" should be set in good loamy ground two or three inches below the surface of the ground, even then they may be tardy bloomers, but patience is well repaid, when they burst out in bloom some time in May, usually at or about Decoration Day, when we most desire fine blooms to honor our dear ones gone before.

Unfortunately the paeony is peculiar in its requirements of soil and climate. Coastal regions are not adapted to its best growth here in California. Both the herbaceous and tree paeonies must have cold winters to perfect the bloom. The plants themselves grow admirably, but as they flower at a time when the weather is hot, either the flowers are burnt or the plants are pushed to early maturity and very poor bloom results. In the higher altitudes where there are decided seasonal changes and some snow, the blooms mature and are magnificent. In this county are some extensive plantings, one at Pine Hills, of the Tree Paeonys that are wonderful. Another planting at Wynola of the Herbaceous Paeony is showing good results.

In finding "something different" in the general run of plants and flowers as generally seen in California gardens, it would be well worth while to give this "King of Flowers" a chance to hold its own amongst so many which are being tried out in our varied California conditions, both as a pleasure and as a commercial asset as an addition to our Decoration Day to which we all desire to give our best floral wealth.

#### JULY MEETING

The regular meeting of the Floral Association will be held the evening of July 17th with Mrs. F. J. H. Havard, 4190 Palmetto. Be sure and hear Miss Sessions on "Succulents and Cactus" and bring specimens.

## WATER LILIES

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## BALBOA PARK NOTES

By John G. Morley, Superintendent of Park,

The light rainfall of the past season calls to mind a few of the interesting trees and shrubs that thrive well in California and are also very drought resistant. One of the finest of the trees is *Jacaranda Ovalifolia*. This is the correct name, although, in the nurseries and gardens, it is generally called *Jacaranda Mimosaefolia*, probably due to the foliage somewhat resembling the mimosa or sensitive plant.

The foliage of the tree is very beautiful and fern-like, and, when well grown, it becomes a large tree with beautiful foliage and deep blue tubular flowers, resembling in character many of the *Bigonias*. In fact the tree belongs to the family of *Bignoniaceae*. It is a native of Brazil and very tender. It should be planted in locations free from severe frosts. At this season of the year it is in full bloom and is especially beautiful at this time, as the foliage is all of this summer's growth.

It is a deciduous tree and sheds the old foliage just as the tree is coming into bud; consequently, at this season, it produces a very handsome effect. There are several very fine trees in San Diego and in Coronado, and a large group in Balboa Park near Twenty-eight and Redwood.

This tree has been extensively planted in the South, especially in Florida, where it thrives luxuriantly. In the eastern states it is grown under glass and used as a pot plant in conservatories. It is also planted out in the summertime for subtropical bedding in parks and gardens. As a street tree in California, it has been used in Santa Barbara and other places, and can be recommended for the same purpose here. There are three other varieties of *Jacaranda*. The variety here described is the only one that has been extensively planted in California.

*Hymenosporum Flavum* is a very fine small tree, belonging to the *Pittosporaceae* or *Pittosporum* family, which is one of the most extensively planted shrubs in California. This tree is very suitable for planting in parks and gardens, and also as a street tree, it is especially recommended for narrow streets, as it may be pruned to keep it symmetrical for that purpose.

During May and June it is covered with very pretty small yellow blossoms that are delightfully fragrant, and should be a fine addition to our gardens. The foliage is a beautiful glossy green, and seems to shed the dust so that the tree has always a clean appearance even during our dry summer. It may easily be propagated either from cuttings or seeds. The only trees in San Diego are several on the west side of Balboa Park south of the aviary, and are in bloom at the present time.

*Melaleucas*, *Metrosideros* and *Calistemons*; these may be termed the Bottle Brush family, which is composed of many varieties, four of which will be described in this article. The balance of these that thrive here will be continued in next month's number. They are very drought resistant and thrive under very adverse conditions, both as to soil and moisture.

*Melaleuca Hypericifolia* is a very fine shrub for the garden, and has been extensively planted in Southern California, in both parks and gardens. The foliage is small and lanceolate, the flowers a rich red, and it is one of the most popular of all the varieties grown.

Nearly all the *melaleucas* are very pretty in the growing season as the young foliage and stems are a very different color from the ripened growth, adding an additional charm to the plant which is seldom seen in other shrubs or trees.

The cut foliage of the variety here described will keep for two weeks in water, and is almost as pretty for such use as the wild huckleberry foliage which is used in immense quantities by florists.

*Melaleuca Leucadendron* (Cajaput tree, Punk tree, Swamp Tea tree.) This variety may be grown either as a tree or small shrub. It is not only very drought resistant, but will grow well in alkaline soils and adjacent to the ocean, where it is not affected by the salt spray like so many shrubs that are planted close to the seashore.

The flowers are creamy white, varying to pink, and purple, the leaves elliptic or oblong, and yield the cajaput oil used in medicines.

*Melaleuca Stypheloides*, beautiful either as a shrub or small tree; several very fine specimens are growing in Balboa Park as small trees on the west side near Sixth and Spruce streets.

This variety, I believe, would be an excellent one to grow as a street tree, owing to its drought resisting character and its symmetrical growth. As a shrub it is very good, although not as extensively utilized as many other varieties, I believe it is one of the best. The foliage is rigid and somewhat prickly, and the flowers, which are creamy white, are produced in dense spikes during the blooming period.

The above varieties may be pruned to any desired size, and, from my experience in Los Angeles and San Diego with the last named variety, I believe it would pay a progressive nurseryman to grow a quantity for street planting.

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# WATER LILIES

The art of water gardening is a very old one. From the tombs of the kings of Egypt as far back as 2500 B. C. have been taken the dried flowers of the Lotus of the Nile worked into wreaths and placed in the sarcophagae. It was revered as a symbol of life and regeneration.

A great stimulus was given to the culture of aquatics by the beautiful hybrids of the hardy lilies sent out by M. Latour-Marliac. The common yellow water lily was first offered in 1877 and has been followed yearly by an increasingly beautiful series. A further impetus was given by the flowering of Victoria Randi from seed secured at Para, Brazil, by Mr. E. D. Sturtevant.

The tropical species were at first more common in cultivation than the hardy kinds. In England *N. capensis*, *N. caerulea* and others were catalogued, whereas, it was difficult to obtain *N. alba* or *N. odorata*.

With the introduction of *N. mexicana* from Florida, *N. alba rubra* from Sweden, *N. tetragona* from China and the discovery of the pink Cape Cod lily, *N. odorata rosea*, hybridization in the hardy group went on apace. A few fine varieties were produced in the United States and these still hold their place among the standard varieties. *N. Jas. Brydon*, *N. Wm. Falconer*, *N. Gladstoniana* and quite a few of the *N. odorata* hybrids are difficult to surpass.

To America must be given first place, however, in the production of hybrids of the tender lilies. This may be ascribed, perhaps, to our hot summers being more propitious to their growth than the short cooler summers of northern Europe. Crossing the tropical species is a very easy and interesting pursuit. Almost any combination takes, and hundreds of fertile seeds are produced in each seed pod. These will flower the first year and among them are sure to be some fine things. For instance *N. caerulea* X *N. zanzibariensis* gave *N. Pennsylvania*, *N. caerulea* X *N. capensis* gave *N. pulcherrima*. *N. flavo-virens* (*N. gracilis* of Hort.) X *N. Zansibariensis* gave *N. gracilis purpurea*, *N. g. azurea*, *N. Wm. Stone*. *N. flavo-virens* X *N. Zan. rosea* gave *N. gracilis rosea*, *N. Mrs. C. W. Ward*. Many other combinations will suggest themselves and all will be worth growing.

The procedure in hybridizing is very simple. As the flower opens on the first day remove the stamens, which are easily identified by their standing upright along the edge of the inner cup, and place a paper bag about the flower. This is to prevent the bees carrying foreign pollen which they will surely do. The flowers are receptive on the first day of opening and the work is best done during the warm mornings. In the center of each flower is a small pool of water. This covers the

broad saucer-shaped stigmatic area. Now take the stamens from a flower that has been open two or three days and dust the yellow powder or pollen which is the male principle into the liquid filling the center. By the next day this will dry up and if the cross is successful when the flower withers and retreats below the surface the seed pod will continue swelling and in a month or so will burst open scattering the seed which will float to the surface. It is best, however, to tie a cloth bag around the pod and secure this to a stake driven into the mud so the seed will not be lost.

In sowing the seed which may be done immediately, all that is necessary is to scatter it thinly over a pan full of soil and cover with an eighth inch of sand, then sink it carefully in water not over a foot deep. In a short time the tiny seedlings will appear looking for all the world like blades of grass. The third or fourth leaf produced will float on the surface and then the plantlets will grow quickly. After a few leaves have appeared they may be transplanted to their permanent places. If it is late in the season the seeds may be washed and put into a bag where they may dry out and be kept in a cool, airy place until next spring.

*Con'd on Page 16*

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# The June & July Gardens

## THE JUNE GARDEN

By Mary A. Matthews.

Probably at this time what is most needed in the garden is water. Most everything now will be much better for ample moisture, over head watering, of course, helps freshen the foliage and gets rid of dust which clogs the pores of the leaves—also is a very material help in keeping down aphids, but the roots must have sufficient water, enough to soak the ground down to some depth and the soil should always be gone over with a rake or hoe so as to prevent packing. Air is needed at the ground as well as on the top.

The planting season for summer blooms is about over, but for fall and early winter blooms you can put in seeds of sweet alyssum to be sown where it is wanted to bloom. Calendulas, either in the open or in boxes to be moved afterwards. Migonnette does not stand transplanting. Candytuft, Gypsophila, baby's breath, this wants successive sowings to keep up the supply, some recommend planting zinnia seeds even at this late date and if the weather is favorable blooms can be gotten late into the season where you have bare spots in the garden it is well to purchase plants from florists, and if given good care they will give blooms in the warm weather.

Not too late to put in a planting of gladiolus; give them good soil, ample water and cutivation and they will reward you with fine stalks of bloom at a time when there is a scarcity of other flowers.

Bearded Iris give best results if planted in mid-summer. The Rhizomes have not begun their new growth at this time and if planted now they are well established before the winter season begins. Cut off all old leaves before replanting and do not plant deeply—this is the reason so many of them fail to bloom for a season or two after planting, they expend a good deal of their vitality in trying to push themselves upwards. A good dressing of lime, and bone meal worked into the soil at planting time is beneficial where old clumps are not to be disturbed, loosen the soil carefully around them and work in the lime and bone. If starting an Iris garden consult some one who has tried out different kinds and select those suited to your locality—of the few kinds I've tried so far, the early bloomers have proved the most successful. In a note from Mr. John Wister, he says he thinks most emphatically we will have to grow a very different class from those grown in the

*Continued on page 14*

## THE VEGETABLE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

Owing to the long continued coolness, the weather up to this writing, being more like April than June, you can continue to plant or begin planting, as the case may be, almost all of the early vegetables, with the possible exception of peas and potatoes, which are not, as a rule, satisfactory during the warmer summer weather.

Beets, beans, cabbage, cauliflower, sweet corn, cucumbers, lettuce, musk melons, water melons, peppers, egg plant, radish, onions, pumpkins, salsify, spinach, tomato seeds and plants and turnips. The seeds of all these can be planted successfully, and with proper care will produce as well and come to maturity more quickly than seeds planted earlier.

So you see it is not too late yet to start your vegetable garden if you will prepare your ground thoroughly, by deep spading preceded by proper manuring and deep irrigation, bearing in mind that as we will soon have our summer heat, you must be a little more careful to irrigate and cultivate thoroughly to get your plants well started, than as though you had planted earlier, as real summer conditions of heat and consequently drier atmosphere call for more careful treatment than when the weather is cooler and the air more moist.

Continue the use of insecticides and fungicides, particularly Black Leaf 40 and Bordeaux Mixture always remembering that by spraying early you often prevent the trouble, particularly in using Bordeaux Mixture.

If your cucumber or melon vines show signs of leaves withering up through not having used Bordeaux in time, pick these leaves off at once and burn them up or if the whole vine is badly effected just pull it up altogether and spray the balance of your vines with Bordeaux.

Now I am going to digress for a moment and talk about our annual meeting. Well I think we are at last getting into our stride with a wonderful outlook for the future, particularly as long as we have men of vision like our worthy President at the helm. The fact that we now have a home with such a wonderful environment opens up endless opportunities of interest and usefulness to every member of the Association if they want to help.

Personally, I was a little bit disappointed at the outcome of the election. I am a great

*Continued on page 16*



# The California Garden

A. D. Robinson, Editor  
Office, Rosecroft, Point Loma, Cal.  
Mrs. Sidney E. Mayer, Associate Editor  
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### EDITORIAL

The meeting of the Floral Association at Torrey Pines this month was more than interesting. To those who have shared in the hopes and plans of the Association it was a realization, for here at the Gateway of our city is being builded not merely a Park, not merely a Preserve for the Torrey Pines Grove, but a Wild Garden, if such a thing can be, it can in reality if not in print, where our fast disappearing native flora can escape the casual botanist and the destructive motorist. The folks were taken around by Guy Fleming, who now prances like a McGregor on his native heath and exudes plans for this unique place that include the capture and establishment of everything over a wide territory that is not already growing, there is a nursery that has pipped the egg, water pipes are being laid, trails made and every cone on the pines is card-indexed, so that the seed can be harvested in spite of squirrels, rats and humans. The vast majority of us know Torrey Pines only from the road or the few points of advantage reached without having to climb either way from our machines. It is safe to say we know nothing about them. A half hour's walk over an easy trail will lead through actual forests of pines, there are some sixteen hundred trees, and over on the ocean slope there are specimens the greatest height of which does not exceed ten feet, and yet have a spread of one hundred and twenty-five. One contortionist right by the trail has tied itself into endless knots doubling back on itself three times in one branch. On that slope is also quite an expanse of smooth incline covered with wildflowers and cactus enough to keep the Vandals on the trail. In

some of the pockets is wonderfully carved sand stone that looks like Swiss cheese, only cleaner. But really you must go out there and let Fleming shoot a few botanical names at you, for this is not intended to catalogue even a few of the charms of our Gateway.

Plans are in progress to make the Torrey Pines Park extend from the Biological Station on, taking and preserving for the people those miles of wonderful seafrent, the Government is to establish near a station for experimenting with rubberproducing growths and we now have as a crown the Lodge so superbly fitted into its surroundings that it actually adds to the landscape. It is doubtful if among the few who have really loved that picturesque mass of hill and canyon, tree and cliff with the sea behind, there was one who dared to hope that man could build on the the top of it all and not do harm, a little harm anyway, but it has been done.

That the outlook for Torrey Pines is so big and fine is due to vision, primarily the vision of Miss Ellen Scripps, for of course she not only owns most of the trees, but she built most of the lodge, is making trails, and all that those who come after her may have this splendid playground for theirs. She is building for herself a magnificent monument.

The auto has done a good many things besides make Henry Ford a Presidential alarm, among them it has created a demand for Parks that is today being officially canvassed by most of the States of the Union, and at the same season over in Europe the Parks which for the main were private estates, are going by the board because their owners can no longer meet the expenses of their maintenance. These private parks in most instances were open to the public on stated days and for years the public have visited them entirely without cost either of entrance or maintenance while they cussed the owners for being rich enough to keep them up. These show places are part of a real world, if they can no longer be had vicariously the people must pay for them, and that brings us up against this demand for public places of beauty, natural and cultivated. The private places in our West, let us say Southwest, so that the North does not get peeved, that are really noteworthy are very few; two not far north of us for a short span were quite a little celebrated, both today are like last year's birds' nests, things that were. The expense of building and maintaining a parked estate here is enormous and only will that expense be met privately while the owner has a real live interest. This interest has to be a perfect fever to survive for one thing alone, the high cost and low efficiency of garden help. We are not growing gardeners so much as expert collectors of garden wages. No gardener is worth his salt who does not love his job for itself more than for the dollars it brings. All the fault does not lie with the gardeners,

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employers go fifty fifty or worse, very few of them know even the rudiments of gardening, many of them think that it is only a matter of dollars and cents to grow an oak tree over night, they want quick action, they want better flowers than their neighbor, and when a good man does not do the impossible they worry him to death or get another.

Returning to the Parks from which we have wandered some way, but all along the path,

#### TORREY PINES MINUTES

The Association has enjoyed two outdoor meetings this month, the first was held at Torrey Pines on June 6th, an all-day session enjoyed by about sixty or more. Two nature walks here taken, one in the morning and one after lunch. Mr. Fleming, custodian of the pines being the guide on both occasions. Mr. Fleming's ability as a nature instructor is too well known to say more, further than the



*Torrey Pines Lodge*

we must have these Parks, we must have collections of this growth and that, we must exploit our sections by example rather than precept, (precept will surely be more acceptable than boom to the realtor) and the having of these things cannot be left to the whim of individuals. Publicly built and owned parks, lathhouses, greenhouses, everything, it is too much to hope that many communities will have their Miss Ellen Scripps.

walks were enjoyed by every one. The Torrey Pines Lodge alone is well worth the trip, being a beautiful structure, properly placed. When transportation between the Pines and the city is established, so that one does not have to spend so much time in stopover privileges, it is safe to say Torrey Pines will be among the popular resorts visited by tourists and home folks alike.

MARY A. MATTHEWS,

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

## FLORIDA—ITS PLANT LIFE

The observations here were made the first half of January.

It is difficult to know just where to begin the story. The state, like our own California, has a diversity of soil and of climate. The western part is an undulating country, the soil generally red, like unto that of Redlands, and the climate too cold to permit cultivating the lemon, and the tender varieties of oranges. The Satsuma type, a species, native of Japan, is being planted largely, and seems to be proving profitable.

Not until one arrives in the Eastern part of the state, and south as far as Tampa, does the semi-tropic plant life begin to show itself.

Mango trees twenty-five feet high, with a spread of top quite as wide, appear at Oneco, and bear abundantly.

Gentle reader of these lines, resident in California, when you listen to juicy stories that make your mouth water for a taste of this delicious East Indian fruit, and are told in all sincerity, that it will also grow in these Elysian Fields, put the thought in the back of your head, and the price of the trees: which is usually from five to seven dollars each—into the savings bank.

Occasionally a shrub of this species of tree is found within Southern California, and if the season be favorable, which is seldom the case—a fruit will mature, and the fellow who owns it, is wild with enthusiasm for Mangos.

Dearly beloved, I spent a lot of money; which belonged to another fellow, during the last ten years experimenting with it, then, too, I had the privilege of seeing what other enthusiasts were doing with it, and never again a Mango tree for me in any work that I do. This may seem along story about Mangos, but if it will save the other fellow a lot of money, hard work, and a great amount of disappointment, the telling will not be in vain.

We grow a shrub that some one has been pleased to specify with the name "Banana", because of the delightful odor of the cream colored flowers. It is a member of the Magnolia tribe of trees, and down south, where the Mango grows to perfection it, too, is a large tree. The proper name of this subject is *Michaelia fuscata*, and is worth a place in our gardens when there is room for an extensive collection.

*Magnolia glauca*, a native of that country will not lend itself to cultivation in this state, at least not in the south half of it. Tourists up the Atlantic coast during the month of June will be offered bouquets of this pretty white colored fragrant flower at every station where the train stops. In the swamps of Florida it grows so thickly that it is a very slender tree, but if grown out where it has room for development, becomes quite large.

*Magnolia grandiflora* is the queen of broad leaved evergreens of the Gulf and the Atlantic coast states as far north as Georgia.

Incredible as the statement may seem, it is a fact that in the Bard Botanic Garden at Hueneme, Cal., there grows a specimen of this species of *Magnolia* four times the size of any that I saw anywhere in all my travels through the South, nevertheless there is a luster on the foliage of the southern tree which does not appear in our California specimens.

All my life I have been growing *Achania mollis* under the specific name "arboreus" and never found out the error until I went to Florida.

*Arboreus* is the only species grown down there and it is so much more attractive than *Mollis*, that I bought some plant for California.

We think that *Bougainvillea Brazilensis* is the gem of the tribe, but for spectacular effect, the variety: *Crimson Lake*, beats it ten to one, and thus it is that I brought home a dozen plants of it, and cutting the tops up, there seems to be fair prospects of getting a supply for my friends.

*Eugenia uniflora* is another great success down there; a failure in this state. The fruits are the most brilliant scarlet, glossy as though varnished, and of delicious flavor. And the Palms, Oh the Palms, square miles of country covered with four species of dwarf subjects, in the swamps, in the pine lands, over the grass lands, everywhere these pigmies of the tribe may be seen in their beauty. I have taken some time to a study of these dwarfs. *Serena serrulata* spreads over the landscape by seeds and creeping stems. It is known as Saw Palmetto.

*Rhapidophyllum hystrix* has a globose trunk, armed with sharp spines a foot long. It has several common names: Blue Palmetto, Needle Palm.

Like the Phoenix tribe it is Dioecious. We must get some of this species for our gardens. *Sabal glabra* is another dwarf without stem. We grow it in this state under the name *Adansonii*. *Sabal Palmetto* is the tall growing species, known as Cabbage Palmetto. A slow growing species, which may be seen all over the south as street trees. The street commissioners don't wait for nurserymen to grow specimens, but go to the wild and transplant the big ones which have been in the process of development for a hundred years. I overlooked the dwarf *Sabal megacarpa*, known as Scrub Palmetto.

Then there is the *Sabal Blackburnianum* which is a native of West Indies, but is plentiful in Florida.

The reason for this Palm story is that it





*An Old-Time Floral Meeting at Rosecroft*



may help some other fellow who may visit that part of the country, and may want to know, yet has not the facilities for finding out about knowing their names.

*Acalyphas*, so gorgeous in coloring that they are the pride of every gardener who has the privilege of cultivating them.

*Ipomea Horsfalliae*, Var, *Briggsii* was in full bloom. I shall try this subject once more, having failed with it twice during the last decade.

And Crabs' Eye Beans; the scarlet bean with the black eye, *Arbus precatorius*. A plant that has become a pest. Covering everything and smothering the life out of whatever subjects it climbs on. I saw some on a fence in a yard at Tampa, and wanted a few seeds. I kept one eye on the house, and the other eye on the seed pods, while I gathered the bright beans, thinking all the while, that if the woman of the house were to see me in the act, she would rush out with a rolling pin or broom stick, and bring them to bear on my guilty head. Imagine my surprise when, later in the day, I tramped in the woods to discover them everywhere, and was told by my guide, that if I would rid the country of the pest I would be acclaimed a public benefactor.

*Antigonon leptopus* covers all the private homes of Jacksonville. When in bloom the sight must be gorgeous. The vine does well in this state, but does not luxuriate as it does there.

We try to grow, and succeed fairly well with a species of Dutchman's Pipe vine: *Aristolochia elegans*, but down there is covered forest trees and was in full bloom the middle of January.

*Pedilanthus tithymaloides*, a species of *Euphorbia*, is used for hedges. It is a spiny species and like *Poinsettias*, the beauty of the plant is in the bright red bracts, and though small, they are very showy.

It took me some time to figure out all the plants new to me. One of the wild things growing all over the country; the dry stalks with pendent seed pods attracted my attention and, curious to know the name, was told by every fellow I asked, that it was Coffee Bean. Now you know that we know *Rhamnus cascara* of this coast as Coffee Bean, so here was the same common name for two widely different plants.

Fortunately I saw a little seedling and immediately suspected its identity, and upon investigation in a book on botany of that country found it to be *Sesbania vesicaria*, a yellow flowering species. The *Sesbania punicea* we grow is a scarlet flowering locust shrub.

But the idea I would impress on the reader of these lines is the importance of a knowledge of correct nomenclature of plant life. To be sure, a country of lakes, lagoons, rivers

and swamps favorable to the development of plant life in perfection, is also congenial to musquitos. I was told, that some seasons, they are so plentiful that they may be cut into blocks and used as building material. May be the fellow who told the story was prejudiced against the state.

P. D. BARNHART.

#### NERTERA DEPRESSA?

That lifesaver of a lathhouse ground cover that for years has been known and loved as *Nertera Depressa*, turns out to be a masquerader for it is not that at all but an equally formidably named plant *Helxine Soleirolia* (from the Greek to tear) and it belongs to the same family as the nettle, the *URTICA-CEAE*.

There is only one species and it is from Corsica and Sardinia whence Napoleon is supposed to have sprouted.

The flowers are inconspicuous but it is a superior plant for moderate shade as in lathhouses, the north side of a building or wall or beneath trees, etc.

The name and description is furnished by Robert Kessler of Los Angeles, a plant and bulb collector, through K. O. Sessions, and if you have anything to say, say it to one of them.

#### TO OUR NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Within the last six months the circulation of *California Garden* has increased several hundred and the subscribers live all over this country many far removed from the place where this unique magazine is issued and therefore it seems advisable that a word be said to these folks who perhaps don't realize that the *Garden* must not be expected to live up to the schedule of the ordinary magazine any more than it has to live down to their limitations. In the first place it does not pay expenses, that is in cash, although no one but the printer gets a cent, all contributions are voluntary. In the second place it does not have a regular day for issuance because the contributors being volunteers have not a schedule either and can only be jogged along just so fast. It cannot prepare stuff much ahead and have it alive and it does not use fillers. If your copy does not arrive the day you expect don't worry it is on the way it has never failed to get out eventually in fourteen years.

The editor is an eccentric who knows little of editing and carefully ignores that little, and the staff is not much better.

As a last blow be it said that in accepting your subscription the *Garden* thinks it is conferring a favor by receiving you into the band of workers for and preservers of the beautiful growing things around us and this is to say you are heartily welcome.

## MALALEUCAS AND CALLISTEMONS

These shrubs bear large and brilliant flower clusters in the shape of a bottle wash brush and so are commonly called the bottle brush. They are most desirable shrubs for garden planting and are coming into full bloom and are well worth observing at this time of the year.

One of the largest and best collections is to be seen on the south side of the west entrance to Balboa Park, along the paved road and behind the guard wall as you approach the bridge. These are technically *Callistemon* hybrids, but often called *Melaleuca* hybrids.

There is a wide range of color in the blooms, many shades of pink—yellows, reds and mulberry shades. Their foliage is very attractive and desirable, for the tips of the new leaves are brightly colored and as effective as a blossom. The seed pods are like hard warts in rows around the stem and are full of fine, dust-like seeds, secured by letting the pods dry in the sun. These seed pods remain on the plant and the seed is fertile for many years.

*Melaleuca alba*, *M. genistafflora*, *M. hypericifolia*, *M. linarifolia*, *M. Huegelii*, *M. leucadendron*, *M. ericifolia* and *M. lateritia* are the best and most distinct and individual varieties. The last one, *M. lateritia*, is very rare. One shrub, three years old, is in the garden of Mrs. Stockwell on Palmetto Way. The seed of this plant was brought by Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Campbell from Australia and given to Miss Sessions for propagation. Seed from Mrs. Stockwell's plant will be available this year. There are only two well-known plants in Los Angeles. It is considered one of the very best varieties. We hope to see more of them. It has a fine, bright-green foliage and a very silky, lustrous bloom of fiery scarlet.

*Melaleuca leucadendron* is the Cajuput tree, producing the Cajuput oil of commerce. Near the large audience tent or canopy at the Colorado band stand, a single tree is as old as Tent City. It is not a fine specimen, but it is of much interest. It thrives in salty or alkaline sea soil and will be an excellent tree for our marine base plantings on the made lands. It has been planted extensively on the salt marsh land about Havana, Cuba.

*Melaleuca Lateritia* and *Bougainvillea lateritia* are both so named for the color of their flower, *lateritia* meaning brick-dust color.

It is of interest to know that Bottle Brushes, *Eucalyptus* and *Myrtles* all belong to the same family—*Myrtaceae*. Their flowers do not show their relationship, but their seed-pods do, very plainly.

The difference between the *Callistemons* and *Melaleucas* is in the arrangement of the stamens at their base.

K. O. SESSIONS.

## THE FLORAL ASSOCIATION HOME IN BALBOA PARK

The contract for the repair work and some necessary changes including the building of a small storage room in the back has been let and the contractor has begun the conversion of the Kansas building into the Headquarters of the San Diego Floral Association. Those who heard Park Commissioner Klauber welcome the Floral Association to the Balboa Park family will realize that this should be, must be, the beginning of big things. He expressed a hope that the Association would take a plot of land and have a native garden—sure thing, also a lathhouse as a lathhouse, etc., etc., to the limit of the ability of the Association which is governed absolutely by the measure of the support of the public. Now it wants donations to outfit its Headquarters, it would prefer a lot of small donations but has no objection to any however large. Several have already given but no amounts will be made public. May the Floral Association count on your help?

## MANY FINED FOR YUCCA PLUCKING

Serious consideration, for the first time in history, is being given to motorists who persist in hacking down the great yucca blooms which dot the hills of this part of the state.

Some countries, point out officials of the Automobile club of Southern California, have passed laws making it a misdemeanor to cut the yucca blooms, and other counties are rapidly following the idea with similar protective measures.

Seventeen autoists were arrested recently near Palmdale in Los Angeles county for picking the yucca and other arrests are threatened in various southern counties.

The yucca bloom is indigenous and typical of Southern California with its gigantic wax-like blooms. The yucca in most cases forms a part of the protection of the watershed on some of the dryer hill sections of the state, and for that reason the destruction of the seeds contained in the blooms is considered somewhat of a menace to the watershed protection.

But most important of all, say officials of the Auto Club, is the fact that the yucca offers a sight to eastern motorists which can be found in no other part of the United States, and for that reason it is most important that they are preserved as an attraction for tourists hereabout.

Hundreds of letters have been received by the Auto Club from nature lovers throughout America asking that some action be taken to stop thoughtless motorists from taking home the big blossoms and the club today points out that these blossoms wilt and die as soon as they are plucked and are of no earthly use once they are taken from their natural haunts, as they will not last over night.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

**COPA D'ORA**

"Cup of Gold", Copa D'Ora Solandra Gut-tata, is one of the very strong and large growing vines that is successfully grown here.

Mrs. Alfred Putnam of Walnut and Fourth, has certainly made her garden one of the very brightest spots in San Diego and the location of the vine Copa D'Ora is absolutely perfect and the training has been so well done that it is a very superior specimen.

Planted at the southeast corner of the front of the house, its one large branch or stem is directed toward the front porch and then carried to the balustrade on the second story to which it is fastened. It can be trimmed from this balcony with such ease that this vine is in bloom almost continually. The flowers a dully yellow, with dark stripe along the petals—are the size of a saucer and fragrance is heavy. It can be grown to advantage into a tree.

**AN AFTERNOON AT MRS. TERRY'S**

On Tuesday, June 18th, the Floral Association and its friends were invited to see the beautiful gardens of General and Mrs. Marshall O. Terry in Coronado. These gardens are very beautiful, being planted with rare shrubs and flowers. The large flower gardens adjoining the lathhouse and lawn were a riot of bloom, conspicuous ones being the Salpiglossis Centaurea, snap dragons and Penstemons. Around the lawn runs a broad border planted with choice shrubs and perennials. In the lathhouse probably the most noticeable thing was a Rhus Integrifolia grown to the dimensions of a forest tree. When one thinks of a specimen of Rhus it is usually as a shrub. A large Strelitzia Regina, the Bird of Paradise plant, just past bloom, must have been a glory when in its prime. Why can't we have more of them here, they are an unusual thing in appearance, very striking and while classed among the tropical plants, will grow and flourish in San Diego out of doors. Mrs. Terry told of her observations in Brazil. Miss Sessions spoke of the various plants and trees, their habits of growth and also how many of them had been experimented with to establish them here. A very lovely tree in bloom that day is the Jacaranda Mimosa folia, the Rosewood Tree of Brazil, so called. This belongs to the Bignonia family, though from its descriptive name, one would think of it as belonging to the Acacia family—the name Jacaranda seems to be applied to various hard wood trees in Brazil. In full bloom it gives the tree the appearance of being shrouded in a blue mist. Punch (minus) and cake was served upon the lawn. After a time of social talk relating to gardens, we dispersed with thanks to General and Mrs. Terry for their hospitality and the privilege of seeing the gardens. MARY A. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

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# THE LATHHOUSE

A Series by Alfred D. Robinson.

## A Series No. 5—Begonias

In spite of the fact that it has been hinted broadly that my planting articles have been too general I shall not walk into the trap which catches so many, the attempt to detail where conditions are so variable. This time I wish to introduce as the main lathhouse family the Begonias. This family, of which over three hundred species have been exploited since its introduction into England in 1777 and of which many thousand varieties are cultivated today is named after a Frenchman, M. Begon. I had hoped by a careful study with perfectly fitted glasses to evolve from Bailey a common everyday schedule to differentiate Begonias from other plants, but after wading for hours among things alternate, variable, lobed, ovate, acuminate, peltate, bicular, etc., I have resigned and will ask the readers to find out for themselves, "Why a Begonia? Should any do so and be able to state the grounds in plain talk I shall be glad to know. This seems a good place to state that I am not a botanist. I suspect any pistil might hold me up, nor am I a bit scientific, but I grow lots of Begonias which meet with some applause from those who have card indexed every part of a plant till it blushes when they approach. Begonias are indigenous to Mexico, Central and South America, Asia and South Africa and Bailey says they are in a class by themselves though he puts it, "They seem to have no genetic relationship with other plants now living." Literature about this family is very scarce which makes me feel safer in writing about it.

The Begonia family is divided into four sections, the fibrous rooted, the semi-tuberous, the tuberous and the Rex and many hybrids between these have occurred and will do so more in the future, and this hybridization is being materially helped along by the Southern California lathhouse culture.

All four sections delight in lathhouse conditions though quite a number can be grown in shaded and sheltered locations out of doors, also many can be used as house plants but a moist atmosphere is almost a necessity to good development.

The semperflorens type or bedding begonias which reach their most wonderful development in the potted plants sold in the winter, such a mass of bloom that the foliage is almost hidden, are the best known and cultivated very widely, they are also much easier raised from seed than other kinds and are set out for border effects in many thousands year by year, especially the varieties which wear bronze foliage out of doors. The pink best known are the Erfordii, the red Luminosa. The most widely used for pot culture are all

pinks, Gloire de Lorraine, Gloire de Cincinnati and Chatelaine, but they seem to be ill adapted to lathhouse conditions, though the Erfordii and Luminosa are wonderful there as fillers where the shade is not too dense, however the foliage does not bronze. The so-called Vernon type makes tremendous growth under lath and the flowers are large, a particularly pleasing one is Mrs. Theodosia Shepherd's Seashell, a pink edged white and among the seedlings come various shades from pure white. Though these common types will grow outside they are much more pleasing under lath or at least to me. This type also is almost the only one that comes from selfsown seed, it pops up everywhere and seems to particularly favor paths, cracks in cement pots, etc. I have found cultivation from seed the most satisfactory though root division and by cuttings is quite feasible.

Under lath these begonias need constant pinching back or they are soon weedy. Almost any good soil suits them if drainage is good. I find the potted plants from florists generally growing in quite a stiff mixture, but possibly this is to facilitate shipping for a light compound is always specified in the authorities.

Next up from the bedders are a number of medium growers which I shall take up as they occur to me not very specially classified. In small foliage serrated there are McBethii in the semi-tuber class though why semi when it makes the largest tuber of any, I have seen them eight inches in diameter, I cannot say.

This plant is very dainty, height not above two feet, the flowers are white and small, but the foliage is very cut almost fern like, a very similar one, Richardsoni has still finer foliage and a third though not tuberous and larger grower is much the prettiest, an old variety called Sylvia with pink blossoms. The whites in intermediates are represented by Nitida, one of the most charming and constant blooming of any. But probably the Weltoniensis, white and pink, should have been mentioned with the semi-tuberous these are very charming having pink stems or perhaps the day the reader was looking at them they were red, they make a wonderful low clump. Every one knows Robusta which lives up to its name and does best when savagely cut back every spring in fact it is often unsightly when this is neglected. It may be accepted as a general rule that the Begonia that grows vigorously from the root each year should have old growth cut out. Robusta is pink or red according to the amount of sun it gets, it should be grown where it can drape itself over a low wall or mound as it does not adjust to being tied up. In pure reds there is Sandersonii which will,

bloom in the winter, its foliage is light colored and its blooms like drops of blood. A companion to Robusta is an anemic pink that is Begs and Digs something, but there does not seem much reason for giving it room. The four German medium ones, Sachsen, Preusen, Wurtemberg and another are not very robust with me under lath Sachsen does not take on the coppery hue to foliage its chief charm they are minatures of the big tree begonias and go well at their bases. Sachsen should be almost red and Preusen is pink with quite typical bloom in clusters. The tallest of these intermediates is Wettsteini, a variety I should mark XXX if it had any stamnia but it won't grow for me and when it did try it ran up a long stem with a bunch of leaves just at the end lopped all over the place and the day I went out to pluck it up and throw it away burst out with a wonderful red bloom cluster. If any one has a well doing Wettsteini I should like to study that person so that I too can get friendly with Wetty.

I am aware that these articles have now reached the catalogue stage, but I cannot help it, I am doing my best without a card index, I have one, but there is nothing in it but a few seeds. However I should be grateful for month the stemmy Begonias such as Verschaffelti, which is spelt differently every time I meet it.

#### Goodbye Snails

To the garden lovers comes the good news that the scourge of snails, that menaces the bringing of our plantings to perfection here in San Diego, can pass from us as it has passed from La Jolla. With very little money and infinitely less work than the resetting of plants and the constant killing of these pests, the work can be done—La Jolla is practically a snailless town.

Arsenate of Calcium is the medicine—as I understand it. It can be found only at the Horticultural Department in the court house. There you will find Mr. Fox, who will most courteously and minutely tell you just what to do. He recommends the bran be sifted—otherwise the meal in it, on wetting it, will become lumpy, thus not going as far, nor being as effective. I think it most important it should be done—as I found it not nearly half meal—though you are assured at the feed stores there is very little in it. Follow Mr. Fox implicitly and you'll get results—such results—that from the hundreds of dead snails, the third day—your gardens will not be fragrant, not a time to have a garden party. It is put out at night—after a good watering. The first morning you will notice no change—nor the second—but the third morning there are results.

Regarding the poisoning of animals. La Jolla was also infested with stray cats and

it was deeply hoped that they would pass on with the snails—not so—but a dead cat was discovered. It is thought that dogs will not eat it.

For ten days since I scattered the blessing I haven't found but four live snails. Can we not all get together as one man and clean our beautiful city? It's all a question of individual effort and all getting to work at the same time. I shall be glad to answer any questions over the telephone.

GERTRUDE EVANS.

1506 Plumosa Way.

#### THE JUNE GARDEN

*Continued from page 5*

East. The bulbous sorts the Spanish, and the Dutch hybrids do well on the Pacific Coast, and in Santa Cruz county they are growing them by the thousands for market. Put seeds of stocks in boxes for winter blooms. Beauty of Nice are probably the best kinds for early blooms, they come now in all delicate colors, pink, flesh, lavender, and white, as well as in the intense shades of red, terra cotta, etc. Plant also for early summer blooms snapdragons—these have been wonderfully improved of late. All the art shades are to be had in them, also long spikes and very large flowers. The bane of snapdragon growers is rust, and every precaution has to be taken. Spray with Bordeaux even when in the seedling stage and at close intervals afterwards. Where a plant becomes infected with rust, pull it up and burn. Wood ashes are said to be good used around the roots.

Put in seeds of campanula medium, canterbury bells, if you want blooms next season, and be sure and get seeds of the new mauve cup and saucer kind. There are so many new things being introduced nowadays and the descriptions are so alluring that you want to try them all, and even if you do, you are pretty apt to get one or two new things that are good and we all like to take a chance on things, it is human nature. To me it always seems better to try it and maybe lose it in the garden than elsewhere. Try some of the columbines, the new one, Aquilegia clematiquilla, or bell flowered columbine, large open bell shaped from flowers minus the spurs is said to be a striking new thing. Keep your garden tidy during the summer. All dead flowers and seed pods should be taken off, likewise straggling branches will grow even in the driest summer and wherever there is a little moisture slugs and snails are to be found. It is a matter of dispute amongst expert gardeners as to the harm done by sow bugs. Some contend they are harmless while others that they break off and injure the tender feeding roots. Their name is legion, and one very seldom sees any way suggested to get rid of them.



# The FLOWER SHOP



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## SALIENT FEATURES OF NEXT MONTH'S WEATHER

By Dean Blake, Meteorologist, Weather  
Bureau

It is about June 20th that we enter into the summer season at San Diego. Cloudy nights and early mornings hold near the ocean, but inland, the formation and dissipation is not so regular, the cloudiness frequently remaining within a few miles of the coastal strip and never penetrating into the back country. After the sun breaks through, (usually between 9 and 10 a. m. at San Diego), it generally shines until time of setting; thus there is plenty of sunshine. The records show an average of 67% of the possible during the period.

High temperatures are exceedingly uncommon in the littoral sections, and the nights continue cool; never too warm to sleep in comfort or for the use of blankets. The daily range between the highest and lowest temperatures averages less than 10 degrees, and there has been but one day since 1872 when the thermometer registered 90 degrees or over.

The cooling, salubrious northwest trades prevail, but never reach a high velocity. All danger from storms is passed and the rainfall is reduced to a chance shower, usually the remnant of a "Sonora" in the mountains. Thunder has been heard but 11 times in the past 52 years, and violent storms of this nature are unknown.

This is the season for outdoor sports and relaxation. Camping, swimming, boating and all open air activities are at their height.

## MAY MEETING

The regular monthly meeting was held on Tuesday the 15th, 7:30 p. m., at the home of Miss Amalie Kleinschmidt, 1415 Twenty-ninth street. There were a number present and all were interested in hearing Miss Sessions talk on the subject of planting for late summer and fall blooms. She told of the various things which can be planted and if properly cared for will give bloom in the late summer and fall. Asters, Zinnias, Marigolds, Dahlias and Chrysanthemums were the chief ones in the list. She advanced for general use planting the garden type and the Pompons, the latter being very useful for decoration. She also showed a new honey suckle, *Lonicera Hildebrandii*. This has the largest flowers of any, but is not hardy north.

The president spoke on the subject of the new home, telling how the Board had given much time and thought to the matter before coming to a decision; he also spoke of his appreciation of the interest Mayor Bacon had taken in opening the Flower Show for us officially, a thing never before done, thus giving the approval of the shows by the city. These shows are given for the benefit of the public and every one should be interested in them and do their share.

Miss Mould very generously donated Dahlia tubers to be sold for the benefit of the restoration fund for the new building. They brought in quite a little sum, thus helping along the good work. Various specimens were brought, Mr. Dryden showing a fine spray or branch of the "Cup and Saucer" type of the Canterburybells, a lovely shade of pink. Mrs. Ryan brought sprays of the little bulbous plant, *Anomotheca Cruenta*, so often wrongfully called "Red Freesias." The meeting adjourned with thanks to Miss Kleinschmidt for her hospitality.

MARY A. MATTHEWS, Secretary.

## THE GRAY GOOSE SAYS

The bluejay tackles big snails, the mocker tries small ones, the alligator lizard eats any size. A toad and song sparrow cleared our spinach and sweet peas of green worms. A cat ate the young sparrows, killed the lizard and toad and drove off the mockers. Now if puss will pursue the worms and snails with the same pestiferous pertinacity we might think about forgiving her.

It does not kill a snail to crack his shell. He will survive quite a hard knock, patch up his shell and pursue his wicked way. Better do what the little boy said he was going to do to the deat rat, "Just wham him till he's deader!"

The very best dance step for a spring garden party is a quick step on the spading fork. Tread it to the measure of Yankee Doodle keep it up, and with the hoe be handy.



## WATER LILIES

*Continued from page 4*

The classification and distribution of the family Nymphaeaceae, or the water lilies, is very interesting. Fossil remains have been found which prove the group to be very old. Even in the lower cretaceous the three main divisions were defined. A number of fossil Nymphaeas have been described and two or three intermediate but extinct genera have been enumerated. Europe appears to be the birth place of the family and from there it spread over the entire world. Fossil of highly developed species have been found as far north as Greenland. The present day distribution was probably brought about by the last glacial period. Slowly, but surely, the species were pushed south by the advancing ice sheet the more highly adapted and consequently less flexible species disappearing, the more primitive members following the retreating snow mantle on the journey northward. An interesting fact substantiating this hypothesis is the survival in the warm springs of Hungary of *N. thermalis*, practically identical with *N. lotus* of Egypt. This purely tropical species growing so far north is hard to account for otherwise.

For practical purposes the later lilies may be divided into three main groups. The hardy lilies to which belongs the fragrant pond lily of the eastern states, the tropical day-bloomers and the tropical night-bloomers. They are easily known by the shape and habit of the flowers and by the rootstalk. The hardy type has a true rhizome similar to the German iris, this creeps along in the ooze at the bottom of the pond emitting roots on the under side and leaves and flowers from the upper. The tropical type has a stem that hardens off when dormant into a thick-walled tuber. It may be compared to the Spanish iris. The tubers may be no longer than a pea or may reach the dimensions of a small melon.

The hardy lilies are too well known to need much description. The flowers are usually borne floating or but slightly raised above the water, and may be fragrant or not. The petals are usually spreading. The colors range in white, yellow, pink and red and all the intermediate shades. The flowers commence to open on the early morning, remaining open till late afternoon, each variety having its own time.

The tropical day-bloomers are less well known, but give perhaps the greatest display of all. The term "tropical" is somewhat misleading as most of them are hardy in California. The flowers are usually borne on stout stems sometimes fifteen inches above the water and are mostly very fragrant. The petals are hardly spreading. The colors range in white, pink to red and all shades of blue and purple. The gorgeous purple shades

of some cannot be duplicated. The flowers open with the warm sunshine and close in the afternoon. The night-bloomers are similar in habit to the day-bloomers, but open their flowers about seven o'clock p. m., remaining open until noon next day. The large size and gorgeous coloring make them prime favorites with all who know them.

Distinct from all is the Victoria. This is an annual and each year is raised from seed. Coming from the Amazonian region it requires a high temperature to bring it to perfection. It is usually set out in early June. The great leaves which sometimes reach more than six feet across are turned up at the edge like a Brobdignagian pie tin. They are capable of supporting a great weight. The massive flower is from twelve to eighteen inches in diameter and opens on three successive nights. The first opening wafts across the pool a powerful scent of pineapples and bananas. By morning the flower retreats below the surface opening on the second night a deep pink in color. After the third opening it sinks beneath the water to mature its seeds.

HARRY JOHNSON, Hynes, California.

## VEGETABLE GARDEN

*Continued from page 5*

believer in new blood from time to time in an organization like ours, particularly when the new blood offered is of the best. Of course we are all flattered by being again returned "to office", but I hope that next year some way will be found of inoculating the Association with the before mentioned new blood, and in the meantime that these gentlemen recognizing their probable doom will get in now and work more manfully than ever for the Association.

## A WORTHWHILE APPRECIATION

The below quoted clipping from Ernest Branton's Garden page in the Los Angeles Times brought in at one haul 34 new subscriptions to California Garden which shows among other things that an endorsement by Branton means something. Here's thanking him kindly

### A Garden Magazine

Many are the correspondents who ask if there is a garden magazine published in Southern California that could and should be read to supplement the wisdom dispersed through this department. Sure thing! Send \$1 to "The California Garden", San Diego, and joy shall be yours, if you are a garden addict. It is not large, but is full of stuff worth reading, not a line of "filling" from one cover to the other. It is a modest little publication that has run these many years without proper appreciation and we shall be well pleased if this note shall add a little to its material support, for it is worthy. We are certain that no subscriber will ever regret the investment, if he has a genuine interest in plant life.

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